

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2681

To provide for safe equestrian helmets, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 26, 2002

Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. CHAFEE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To provide for safe equestrian helmets, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### 3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Christen O’Donnell  
5 Equestrian Helmet Safety Act of 2002”.

### 6 **SEC. 2. STANDARDS FOR EQUESTRIAN HELMETS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Equestrian helmets manufactured  
8 9 months or more after the date of the enactment of this  
9 Act shall confirm to—

1           (1) the interim standard specified in subsection  
2           (b), pending the establishment of a final standard  
3           pursuant to subsection (c); and

4           (2) the final standard, once it has been estab-  
5           lished pursuant to subsection (c).

6           (b) INTERIM STANDARD.—The interim standard is  
7           the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)  
8           standard designated as F 1163.

9           (c) FINAL STANDARD.—

10           (1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 60 days  
11           after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Con-  
12           sumer Product Safety Commission shall begin a pro-  
13           ceeding under section 553 of title 5, United States  
14           Code, to—

15                   (A) review the requirements of the interim  
16                   standard specified in subsection (b) and estab-  
17                   lished a final standard based on such require-  
18                   ments;

19                   (B) include in the final standard a provi-  
20                   sion to protect against the risk of helmets com-  
21                   ing off the heads of equestrian riders;

22                   (C) include in the final standard provisions  
23                   that address the risk of injury to children; and

24                   (D) include any additional provisions that  
25                   the Commission considers appropriate.

1           (2) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN LAWS.—Sec-  
2           tions 7, 9, and 30(d) of the Consumer Product Safe-  
3           ty Act (15 U.S.C. 2056, 2058, 2079(d)) shall not  
4           apply to the proceeding under this subsection, and  
5           section 11 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 2060) shall not  
6           apply with respect to any standard issued under  
7           such proceeding.

8           (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The final standard  
9           shall take effect 1 year after the date it is issued.

10          (d) FAILURE TO MEET STANDARDS.—

11           (1) FAILURE TO MEET INTERIM STANDARD.—  
12           Until the final standard takes effect, an equestrian  
13           helmet that does not conform to the interim stand-  
14           ard as required under subsection (a)(1) shall be con-  
15           sidered in violation of a consumer product safety  
16           standard promulgated under the Consumer Product  
17           Safety Act.

18           (2) STATUS OF FINAL STANDARD.—The final  
19           standard developed under subsection (c) shall be  
20           considered a consumer product safety standard pro-  
21           mulgated under the Consumer Product Safety Act.

22          (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
23          hereby authorized to be appropriated for the Consumer  
24          Product Safety Commission to carry out activities under

1 this section, \$700,000 for fiscal year 2003, with the  
2 amount to remain available until expended.

3 (f) EQUESTRIAN HELMET DEFINED.—In this sec-  
4 tion, the term “equestrian helmet” means a hard-shell  
5 head covering intended to be worn while participating in  
6 an equestrian event or activity.

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